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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9476
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 4351
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 6756
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 3157
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 5021
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 8018
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0076
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1958
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STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - GEORGIA

LEAD STORIES: Lead stories in Tuesday morning papers included Monday's Lower House committee passage of the GOJ's new antiterrorism legislation.

1. "Rose Revolution Losing Appeal" The business-oriented Nikkei editorialized (11/13): "Four years ago, a peaceful democratization movement called the 'Rose Revolution' displaced then Georgian President Shevardnadze and led to the election of Saakashvili as the nation's new leader. Ironically, however, the supposedly democratic President Saakashvili has mobilized police to contain protestors and has declared a state of emergency. The Rose Revolution is now losing its appeal.... President Saakashvili claims that he has taken such strong-arm measures because Russia was behind 'antigovernment forces' and was planning a coup against him. This is unconvincing. Opposition forces who have led the demonstrations insist that they are taking a harder line toward Russia than the president. The truth about the confusion in Georgian politics is that it appears to be not a confrontation between pro- and anti-Russian camps, but rather an internal conflict among these 'democratic forces' that took power in the Rose Revolution."

DONOVAN